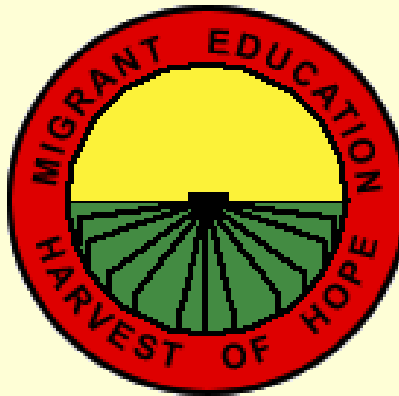


# Migrant ELs: Who are they?



**Paula Gaddis**  
**Tennessee Department of Education**  
**TNTESOL 2012**



# Migrant Student Defined

- ✓ Between 3 and 21 without HS/GED diploma
- ✓ Moved in the preceding 36 months from across school district lines (county or state)
- ✓ To obtain seasonal or temporary employment in agriculture, dairy, or fishing
- ✓ Out of economic necessity






# Identification Process

1. Occupational Survey
2. On-the-ground
3. Recruiter interview
4. State certification with COE
5. Flagged in EIS






# 09-10 State Migrant Profile

- 2894 < 3,229 and high of 5700+in 2005
  - 1,276 OSY and 557 ages 3-5 not in school
  - 1061, 37% in grades K-12
    - 526 ELs
    - 527 moved during the school year
    - 15 disabilities under IDEA
- 

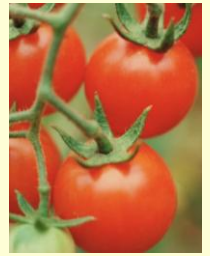


# 10-11 State Migrant Profile

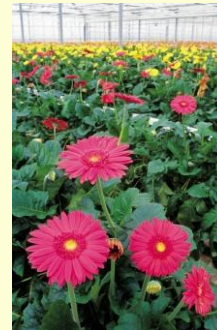
- 2435 (down 463 from 9-10)
  - 1071 ages 3-5 and OSY (down 205 from 9-10)
  - 1356 in K-12, 57% (up 295 from 9-10)
    - 538 ELs (up 12 from 9-10)
    - 862 moved during the school year (up 335 from 9-10)
    - 13 disabilities under IDEA (down 2 from 9-10)
  - 65 LEAs with one or more migrant students
- 



# What jobs do migrant workers do in TN?



- Chicken processing
- Tomatoes
- Cotton
- Nursery plants
- Tobacco
- Meat processing, dairy, strawberries, beans, peppers, squash, apples, grapes



# Available Support with Migrant Funds

- ☼ Advocacy – with parent, with school
- ☼ Transportation
- ☼ Support Service – referrals:  
counseling, health, legal
- ☼ Translation
- ☼ School Supplies
- ☼ Clothing



Supplement not supplant



# Available Services

- ☀ School lunch
- ☀ EXITO
- ☀ Career Institute
- ☀ TOPS Migrant Scholarship
- ☀ Imagination Library
- ☀ PASS - Credit recovery
- ☀ Reading is Fundamental Books (RIF)
- ☀ Telamon – Migrant Head Start Preschool
- ☀ In-home tutoring
- ☀ Professional Development




# Strategies: Cooperative Learning

- ✓ Has a positive effect on literacy and language learning
- ✓ Contextualizes language
- ✓ Increases verbal interaction
- ✓ Promotes active involvement in learning
- ✓ Peers can be more supportive than in traditional classroom
- ✓ Reduces anxiety





# Activate Prior Knowledge

- Brain-based research – We only learn when we can attach the information to prior knowledge. The further the subject matter extends away from the knowledge of the learner, the more distant the learner becomes in the classroom.
  - A student who has worked in the fields will have knowledge of nature and agriculture, which can be a starting point for learning in science.
  - Migrant students may have lived, traveled, and studied in several states.
- 


# Additional Strategies

- ✓ Contact the MEP for access to MSIX and/or contact the sending school.
- ✓ Have a migrant student policy.
- ✓ Establish a system to follow up with frequently absent students.
- ✓ Assist with understanding of graduation requirements.





# Additional Strategies

- ✓ Write for real life reasons.
  - ✓ Provide take-home textbooks and resources for students.
  - ✓ Enhance self-concept and self-esteem.
  - ✓ Integrate culturally relevant content.
  - ✓ Encourage positive ethnic affiliation.
  - ✓ Assign a “partial” or withdrawal grade when a student transfers based on work during time enrolled, regardless of time enrolled.
- 





# Classroom


Place where children feel comfortable and welcome

- ☺ Stop instruction to recognize, introduce, and welcome new students.
- ☺ Assign a classroom buddy.
- ☺ Include new students in classroom jobs.



# Classroom

Clearly explain everyday routines and policies –  
may be common place to us.

- 😊 hall passes
  - 😊 school bells
  - 😊 changing classes
  - 😊 gym
  - 😊 cafeteria and lunch lines
  - 😊 lockers
  - 😊 disciplinary methods
- 


# Classroom

- ☺ Be attentive to warning signs of adjustment problem (withdrawn, aggressive, etc.).
- ☺ Don't take away possessions as a disciplinary measure.
- ☺ Personalize contact – connect with student
- ☺ Good-bye book






# Flexibility

- Flexible school calendar – allow students to complete assignments and exams prior to migration.
  - Send final exams to receiving school to administer.
  - Schedule students into extra period for tutorial or a computer lab, during lunch or before/after school.
  - Require completion of only 75 % of the current assignments during the first two weeks.
  - Break assignments into smaller segments.
- 



# Flexibility


Encourage alternative programs for earning course credits.

- PASS (portable assisted study sequence),
  - Distance learning (skype a class, record course session(s) for students, allow online learning while away from the district),
  - Adult, Evening or Alternative High Schools that allow students to progress at their own pace, enabling students to earn credits at a faster rate,
  - HEP – High School Equivalency Program (16 yrs old and not in school, on campus or commute)
- 





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# Questions?

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